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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED



February 23, 1999

NOTICE OF EX PARTE PRESENTATION

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas Secretary Federal Communications Commission Portals II Building 445 Twelfth Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554 TO TIVED

FEB 2 3 1999

Re:

In the Matter of Applications for Transfer of Control to SBC Communications Inc. of Licenses and Authorizations Held by Ameritech Corporation, CC Docket No. 98-141

Dear Ms. Salas:

Please be advised that yesterday Chuck Smith (President-Network Services, Pacific Bell), Michael Kaufman (President-Consumer Markets Group, Pacific Bell), Bill Blase (Vice President-Regulatory) and the undersigned met with FCC Chief of Staff Kathy Brown and Chairman Kennard's legal adviser, Tom Power, in connection with the above-referenced pending applications. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss service quality, service rate levels and sales practices in California following SBC's merger with Pacific Telesis Group. The attached material served as a basis for our discussion.

In accordance with the Commission's rules governing <u>ex parte</u> presentations, an original and one copy of this notification are provided herewith. Please call me directly should you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Zelu Robertson

Attachment

c:

Ms. Brown Mr. Power

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Pacific M Bell

Post Merger Performance



Since the Merger (4/1/97)

- Service Quality results improved in 1998 (ARMIS 43-05).
- Almost 3000 New Jobs in California.
- Annual Capital Spending increased 20% on OSP and CO facilities.
- More than 800 *Colocation Cages* installed by year-end '98, an increase of more than 400%.
- Pacific Bell has some of the lowest prices in the nation. Additionally, **Prices** have been reduced by \$496M since the merger.
- Ethical Sales Practices that comply with Commission rules.



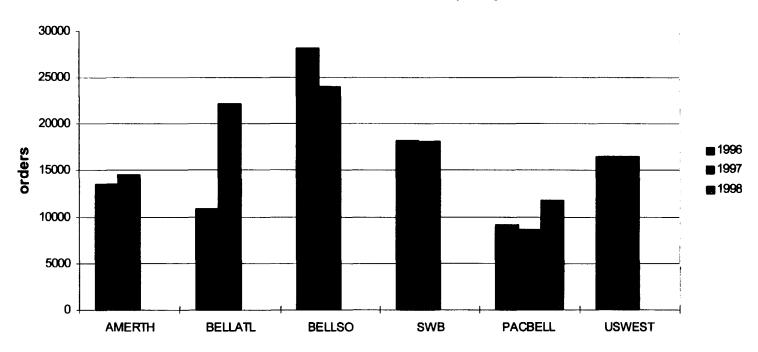
Pacific's service quality improved in 1998.

	<u>'97</u>	<u>'98</u>		<u> '97</u>	<u> '98</u>
% Install. Commit. Met	98.2	98.7	 Initial Trouble 	2639	2784
Avg. Install. Interval (days)	3.0	2.4	Reports		
 Total Switches with 	138	106	 Out of Service 	40.7	43.6
Downtime			Repair Interval		
 Total Switch Downtime 	510	82	(hours)		
in Minutes			 Repeat Trouble 	433	517
State Complaints -	94	85	Reports		
Business Users					
State Complaints -	544	529			
Residence Users					

Installation orders increased significantly in 1998 (37%). Also, Pacific experienced record rainfall in the 1997/1998 season severely impacting repair statistics.



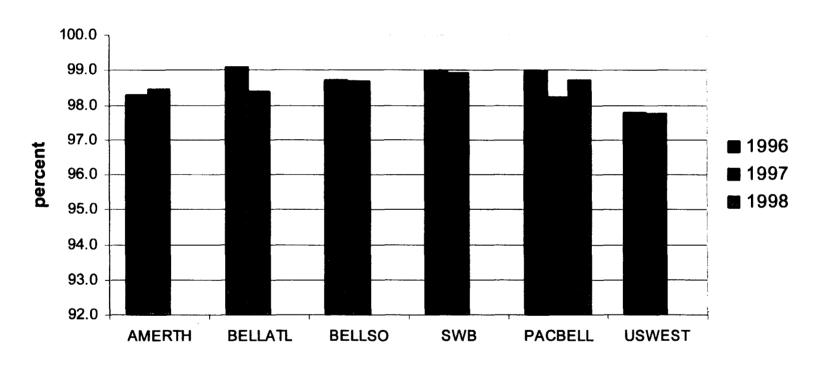
Installation Orders (000)



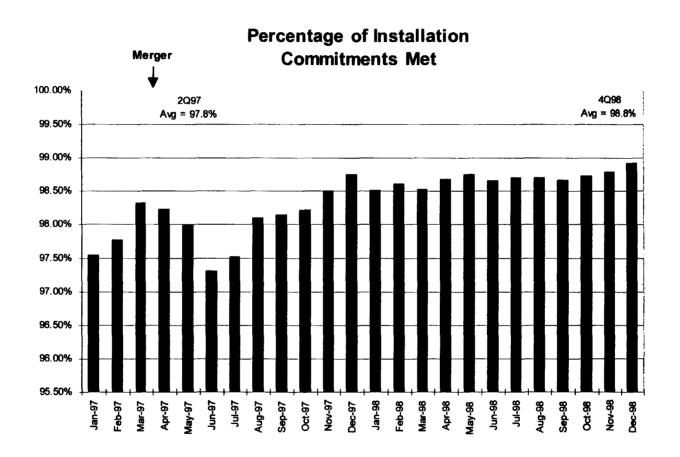
Pacific has experienced significant growth in service orders since the merger. A comparison of 2Q97 and 4Q98 shows a 37% increase in the number of installation orders.



Installation Commitments Met



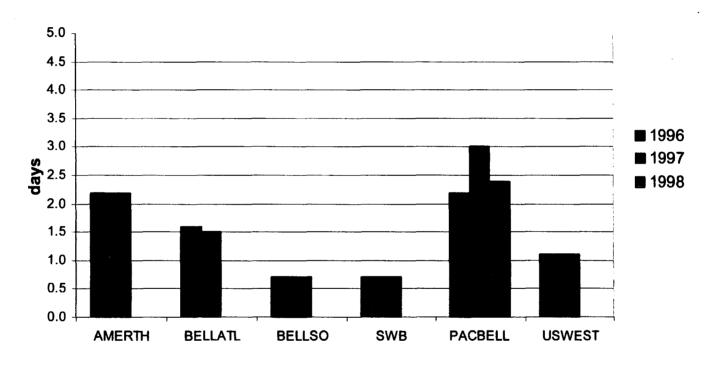
Pacific improved its percentage of installation commitments met since the merger even with a significant increase (37%) in installation orders.



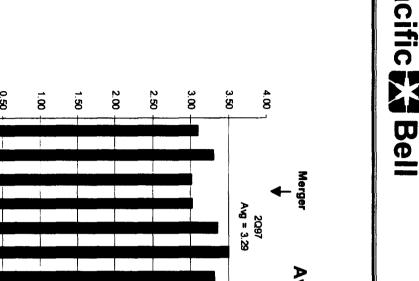
Includes all orders...fielded and non-fielded.

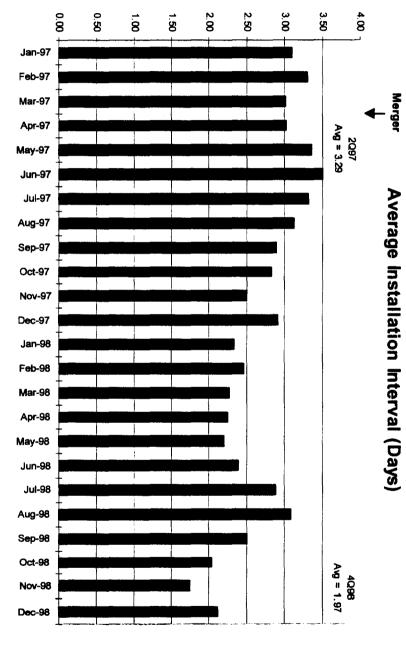


Installation - Average Interval in Days



Installation intervals improved significantly since the merger. Average installation interval in 2Q97 of 3.29 days was improved to 1.97 days by 4Q98.

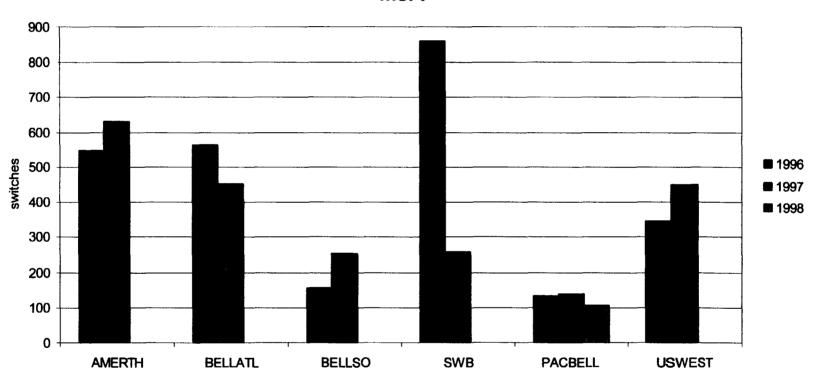




Includes all orders...fielded and non-fielded.

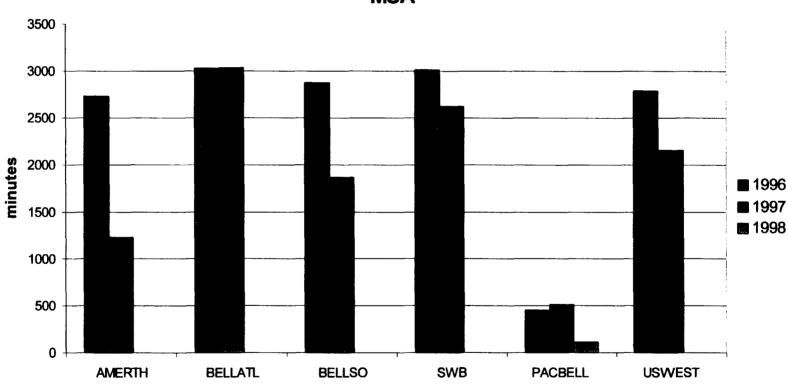


Total Switches with Downtime MSA



Pacific continues to lead the nation in switched network reliability.

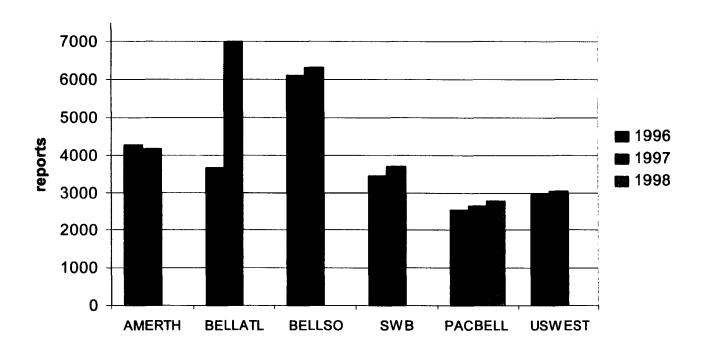
Total Switch Downtime in Minutes MSA



Pacific's Total Switch Downtime results are by far the best of the RBOCs.

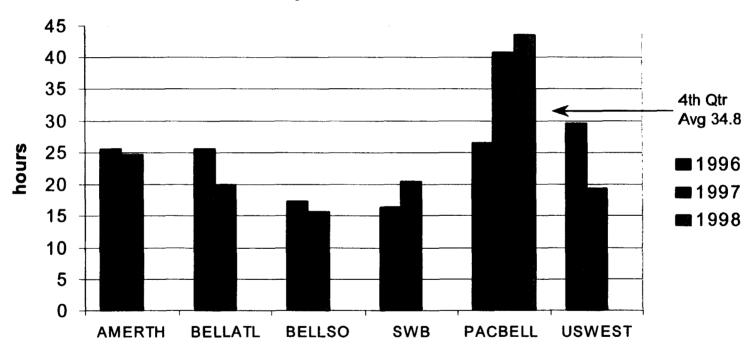


Initial Repair Trouble Reports (000)

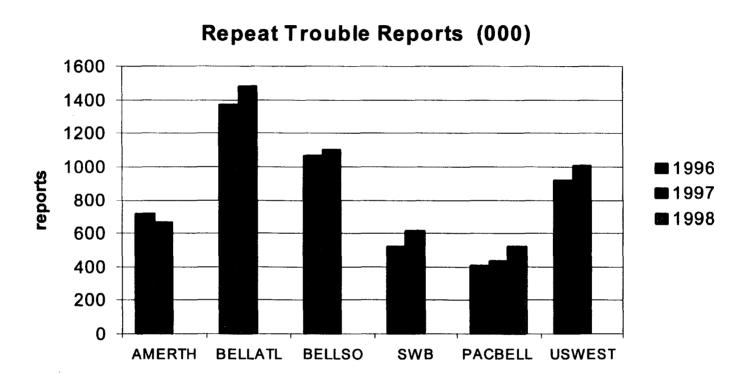


Pacific added over 1000 technicians and borrowed employees from out of state to respond to customer repair reports caused primarily by the record-setting storms of El Niño. Initial trouble reports have declined significantly since 4/98, with April '98 - December '98 data (annualized) producing a 4.9% decrease over 1997.

Out-of-Service Initial Repair Interval in Hours

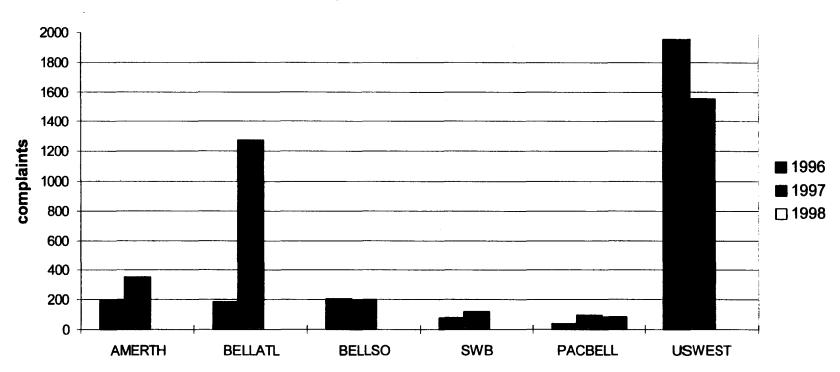


The repair results for much of 1998 were also heavily impacted by El Niño. However, by 4Q98, Pacific had reduced its repair interval to 34.8 hrs.



El Niño and the experience level of the newly added field technicians (added more than 1,000 techs), resulted in a transitory increase in repeat trouble reports. However, lowest repeat trouble reports indicates time spent on initial repairs to fix it the first time is well spent.

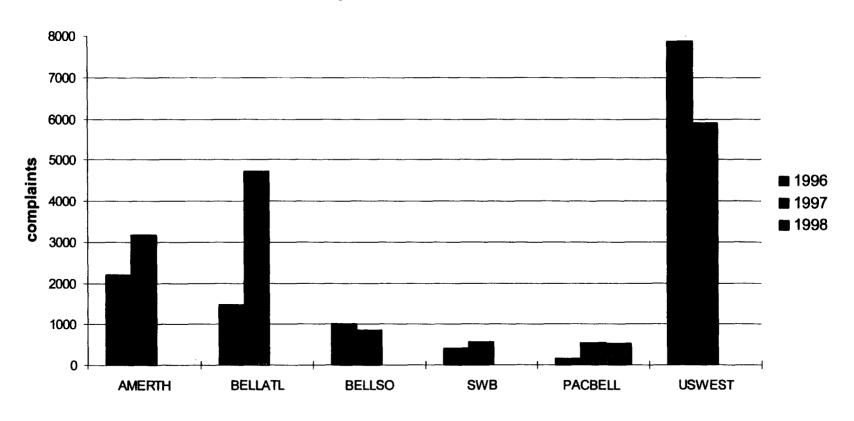
State Complaints - Business Users



Business Complaints declined in 1998 compared to 1997.



State Complaints - Residence Users



Residence Complaints also declined in 1998 compared to 1997.



Customer Service Quality Survey methodology changed in 1998 impacting the percent dissatisfied. Year over year results are not comparable. However:

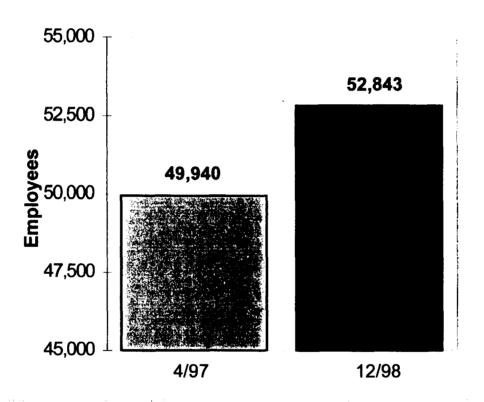
• For the second consecutive year, Pacific Bell was one of the top ranked residential telephone companies for customer satisfaction as measured by J.D. Power and Associates.

and

 Pacific Bell ranked second overall in customer satisfaction among users of local telephone services according to the 1998 Yankee Group's Recognition Survey and first when it comes to value for the money and quality of the network.

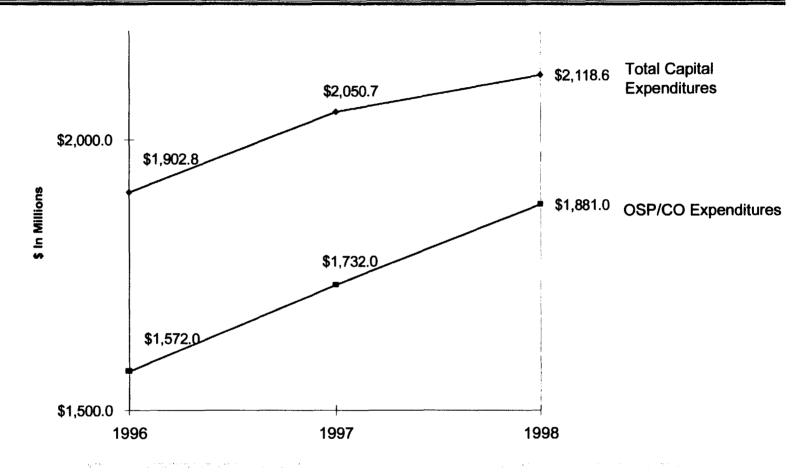
and

 AT&T states that "Pacific Bell is setting the standard against which other Access Providers will be measured." (December 3, 1998)



2903 new jobs have been added since the merger. This increase includes more than 2000 customer facing jobs: 1000+ service representatives and 1000+ communications, services and splicing technicians. Additionally, we have over 1000 requisions outstanding for these customer facing positions.

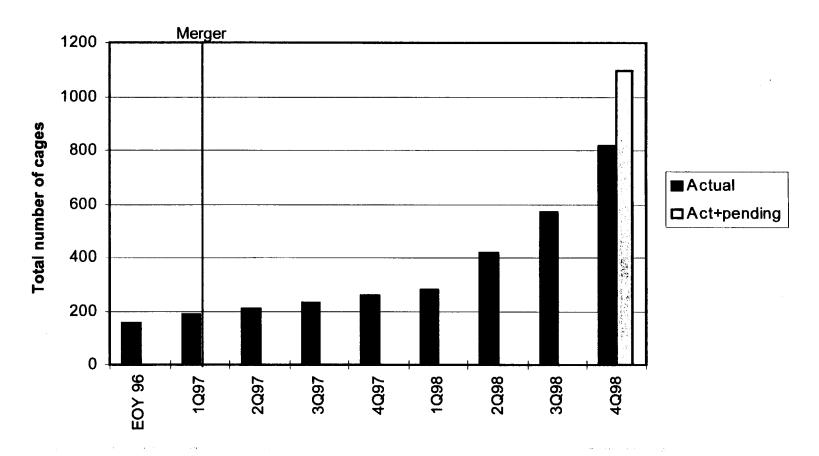
Capital Expenditures For Pacific Bell Wireline



Capital expenditures comparison:

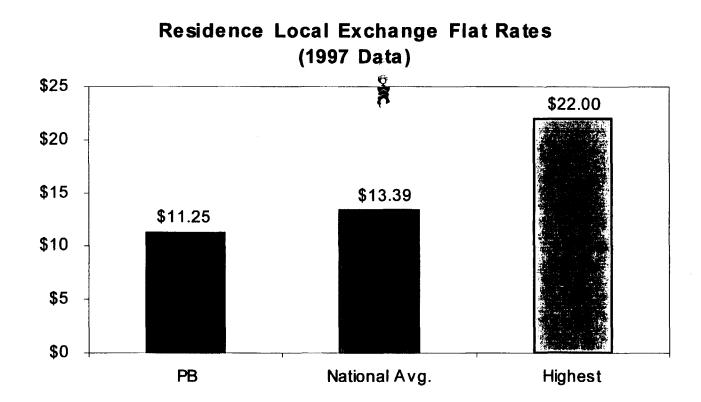
- 20% Increase '98/'96 Outside Plant & Central Office Facilities
- 11% Increase '98/'96 Total Capital for PB





- CLECs located in almost 30% of Pacific Bell's 755 CO/wire centers. These CO/wire centers account for 75% of PBs business revenues and 72% of PBs residential revenues.
- The number of colocation cages currently in place (4Q98) is nearly 4 1/2 times the number in place at the time of the merger (1Q97).

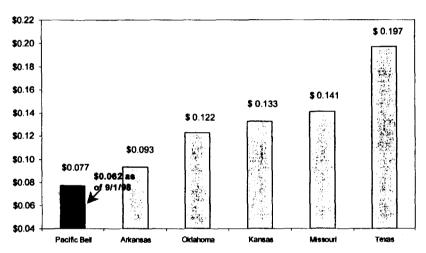




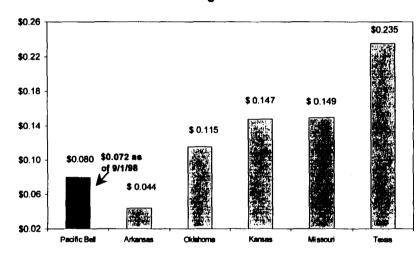
Pacific Bell's residential local exchange flat rates are nearly 20% lower than the National Average.







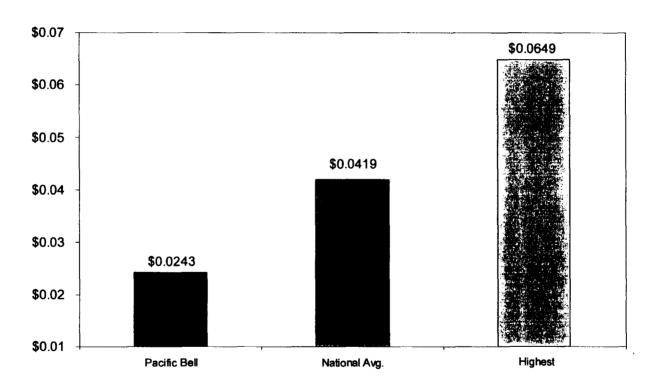
Business Markets 1997 Average Toll Rates



- During 1997, Pacific Bell's Toll rates were among the lowest in the nation
- Effective 9/1/98, Pacific Bell's basic tariff rates for Toll Services were reduced for both residence and business customers.



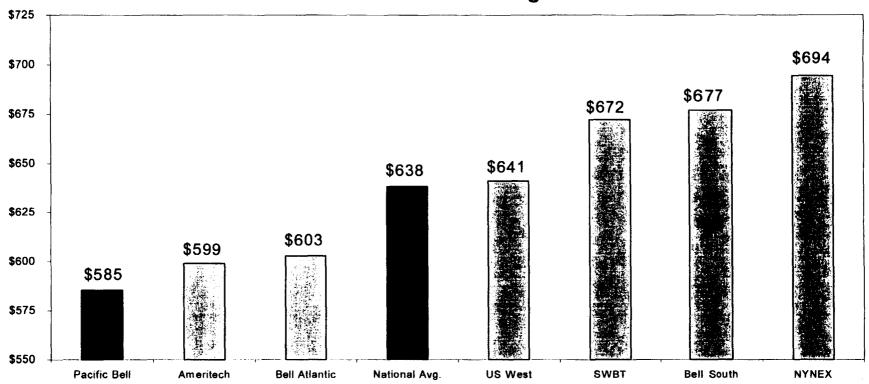
Total Intrastate Access Charges 1997 Average Rate Per MOU



Pacific Bell's average intrastate access rate per minute of use is 42% below the national average --- the lowest amongst all the RBOCs.



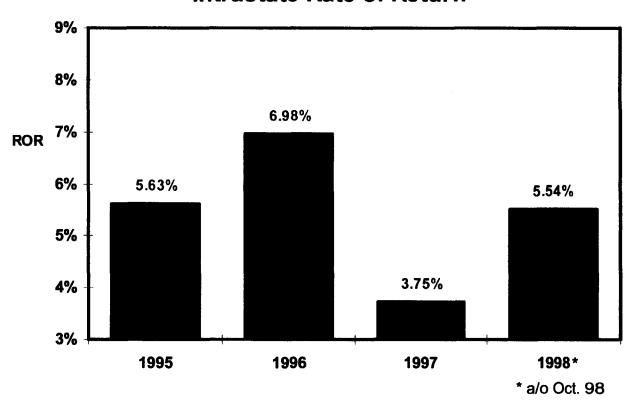




- Pacific continues to have the lowest revenues per average access line among the RBOCs.
- Pacific's revenues per average access line is more than 8% (\$53 per line) below the national average, and nearly 16% (\$109 per line) below the RBOC with the highest revenues per access line.



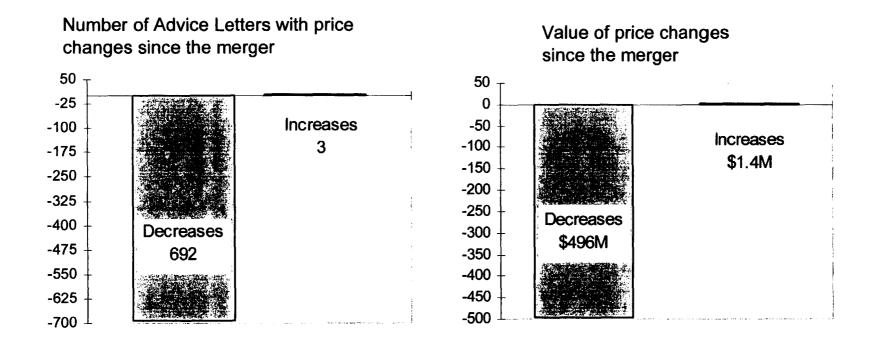
Intrastate Rate of Return



Intrastate operations are approximately 75% of Pacific's regulated operations.



Allegation: Opponents allege that Pacific has requested substantial rate increases for a number of services



Fact: Since the merger, Pacific has reduced prices by \$496M. This includes reductions associated with contracts, promotions, price cap filings, and other rate reductions.

Price Changes Since the Merger

Price Decreases:

Almost 700 Advice letters (AL) filed seeking price decreases since 4/97:

 Contracts - 513
 \$92M

 Promotions - 132
 \$24M

 Other rate reductions - 47
 \$380M*

 Total - 692
 \$496M

Other rate reductions breakdown:

'98-'99 Price Cap Filings -2 ALs - Sumr	mary of '98-'99 Z factors	(\$331M)
FASB 106 - PBOPs	(100)	
Pacific Telesis/SBC Merger Refunds	(98)	
Jurisdictional (OB&C) Expense Shift	(74)	
\$200 to \$500 Expense Limit	(21)	
Smaller LEC Separations Issues	(20)	
Sale of Belicore	(9)	
Other Misc. Issues	(9)	
Other Advice Letters. e.g., - 45 ALs		(\$49M)
Reduce Centrex features	(6)	
Residence Discount Calling Plans	(9)	
Usage Sensitive 3-Way Calling	(7)	
Saver Plus	(5)	
Universal Service Rate Design True-up	(14)	

Price Increases:

- Only 3 advice letters seeking increases: \$1.4M
- 1 Application to increase Directory Assistance from \$.25 to \$.50, a rate which is comparable to that charged in several other jurisdictions, and one-half that charged by our competitors in California
- Each advice letter and application was filed in accordance with CPUC rules and regulations.



- Pacific operates rigorous systems to ensure ethical sales practices.
- Pacific has a goal to assist customers to make informed choices about our current products and services.
- Sales tools are designed for uniform use by service representatives to ensure compliance with all CPUC guidelines and ethical sales practices.
- Pacific makes sure that customers are fully-informed.
- Pacific's approach is endorsed by CWA, representing 90 percent of our customer service reps.
- Pacific will not tolerate unethical sales practices.